

An Oral Response

A performance by

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Response by Mary O'Neill

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Greestone Building

University of Lincoln.

The pent up energy of charcoal,
the carbon remains of millennia
of waiting is released in a breath
and soon it will be swept away.

Like a miner red rimmed
irritated eyes peered out from a
coal masked face, the performer
stands up. The performance is
over. On the floor is the
evidence of the event, the
evidence of effort, the evidence
of existence. Not just the image
left by the breath of the
performer but the coal dust
itself evidence of existence
beyond a single lifetime, that
unimaginable existence of a
planet. Here we see the
slightness of a breath the
slightness of our presence.

Ashes to ashes

Dust to Dust

Dust thou art and to dust thou
shalt return.

2008